

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of billing network usage over a network, said method comprising:

determining when a network interface is activated at a client system the network interface being activated when a communication link between the network and the client system is established;

obtaining ~~desired information~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file across said communication link while said network interface is activated;

determining when said network interface is deactivated at the client system, the network interface being deactivated when the communication link between the network and the client system is disconnected, wherein the determining when a network interface is activated and the determining when said network interface is deactivated is performed by the client system;

storing, at the client system, information relating to a time-based bill based on when the network interface is activated and when the network interface is deactivated;

transmitting a call detail record from the client system to a billing module on a billing system based on the information relating to said time-based bill.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein obtaining said information comprises encrypting said information, transmitting said encrypted information across said communication link, and decrypting said encrypted information.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said information relates to a video file.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising launching an application based on a menu selection.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising transmitting a connect packet from a client to a router device, said connect packet being based on said selected application.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client via said communication link.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said call detail record comprising information relating to at least one of a time, an Internet protocol address and a status.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a disconnect packet from a client to a router device via said communication link.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client via said communication link.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying call detail record information based on information relating to said time-based bill.

16. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

connecting a client with a content provider of ~~a desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file;

obtaining said ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file from said content provider;

disconnecting said client from said content provider;

determining an amount of time said client is connected to said content provider, wherein the determining an amount of time comprises:

determining when a network interface to said content provider is activated; and

determining when said network interface to said content provider is deactivated, wherein the determining when a network is activated and the determining when said network interface is deactivated is performed by the client system;

storing, at the client system, information relating to a time-based bill based on when the network interface is activated and when the network interface is deactivated; and

transmitting a call detail record from the client system to a billing module on a billing system based on the information relating to said time-based bill.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein obtaining said ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file comprises encrypting said ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file, transmitting said encrypted ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file from said content provider across a network and decrypting said encrypted ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein connecting said client with said content provider comprises transmitting a connect packet from said client to a router device.
20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client.
21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the stored information comprises a call detail record.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said call detail record comprising information relating to at least one of a time, an Internet protocol address and a status.
24. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein disconnecting said client from said content provider comprises transmitting a disconnect packet from said client to a router device.
25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein disconnecting said client further comprises transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table.
27. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising displaying call detail record information.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said ~~desired content~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file relates to a video file.

29-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising:

determining when a network interface is activated at a client system, the network interface being activated when a communication link between the client system and the network is established;

obtaining ~~desired information~~ at least one of a video file, a data file and an audio file across said communication link while said network interface is activated;

determining when said network interface is deactivated at the client system, the network interface being deactivated when the communication link between the client system and the network is disconnected, wherein the determining when a network interface is activated and the determining when said network interface is deactivated is performed by the client system;

storing, at the client system, information relating to a time-based bill based on when the network interface is activated and when the network interface is deactivated; and

providing, from the client system, the stored information to a billing system.

37. (Cancelled)